

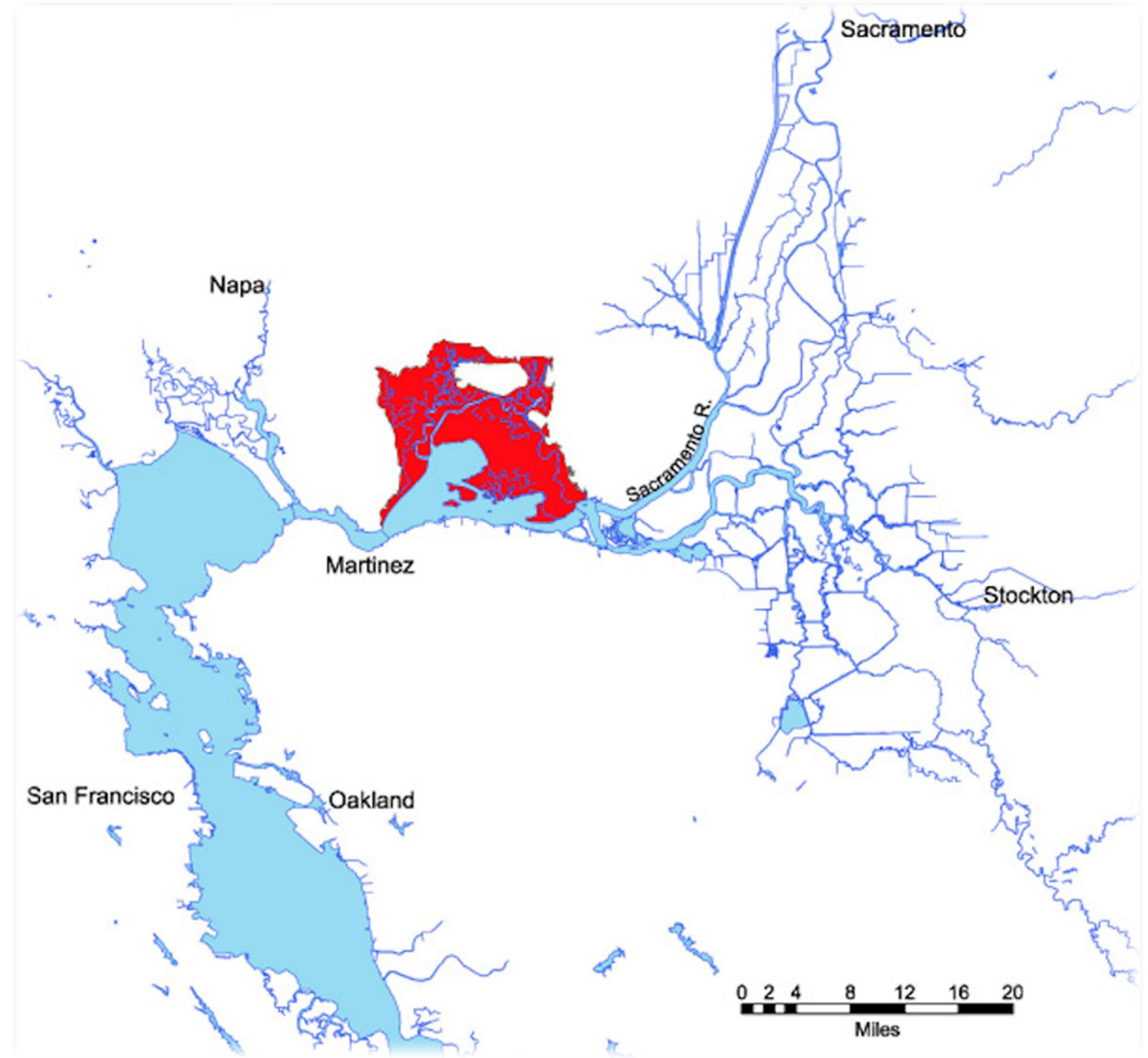
# **SUISUN RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMPONENT OF THE SUISUN MARSH LOCAL PROTECTION PROGRAM**

Yair Chaver, Data and Research Analyst

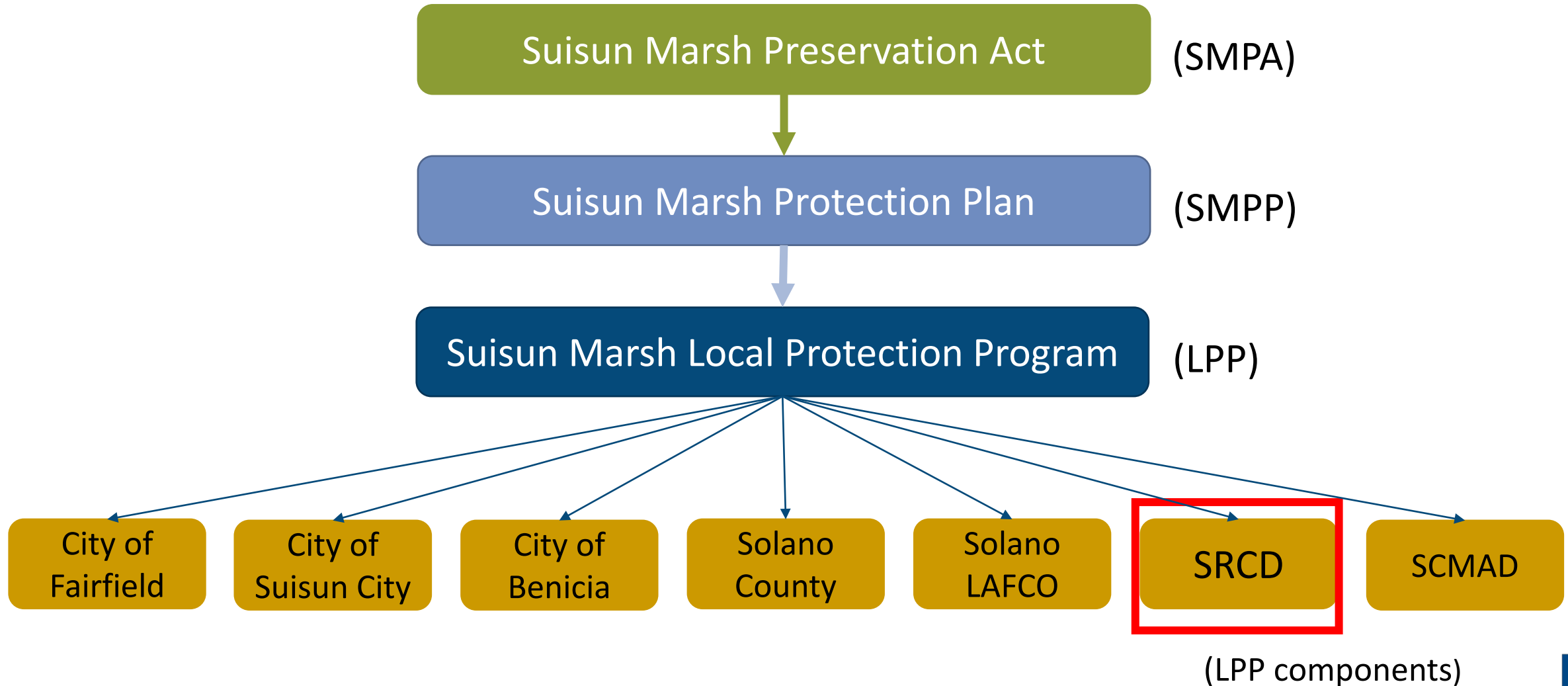
February 3, 2022

# THE SUISUN MARSH

- Largest contiguous brackish marsh in the United States
- 10% of the total remaining natural wetlands in California
- Most productive type of marsh supporting the widest variety of marsh dependent wildlife

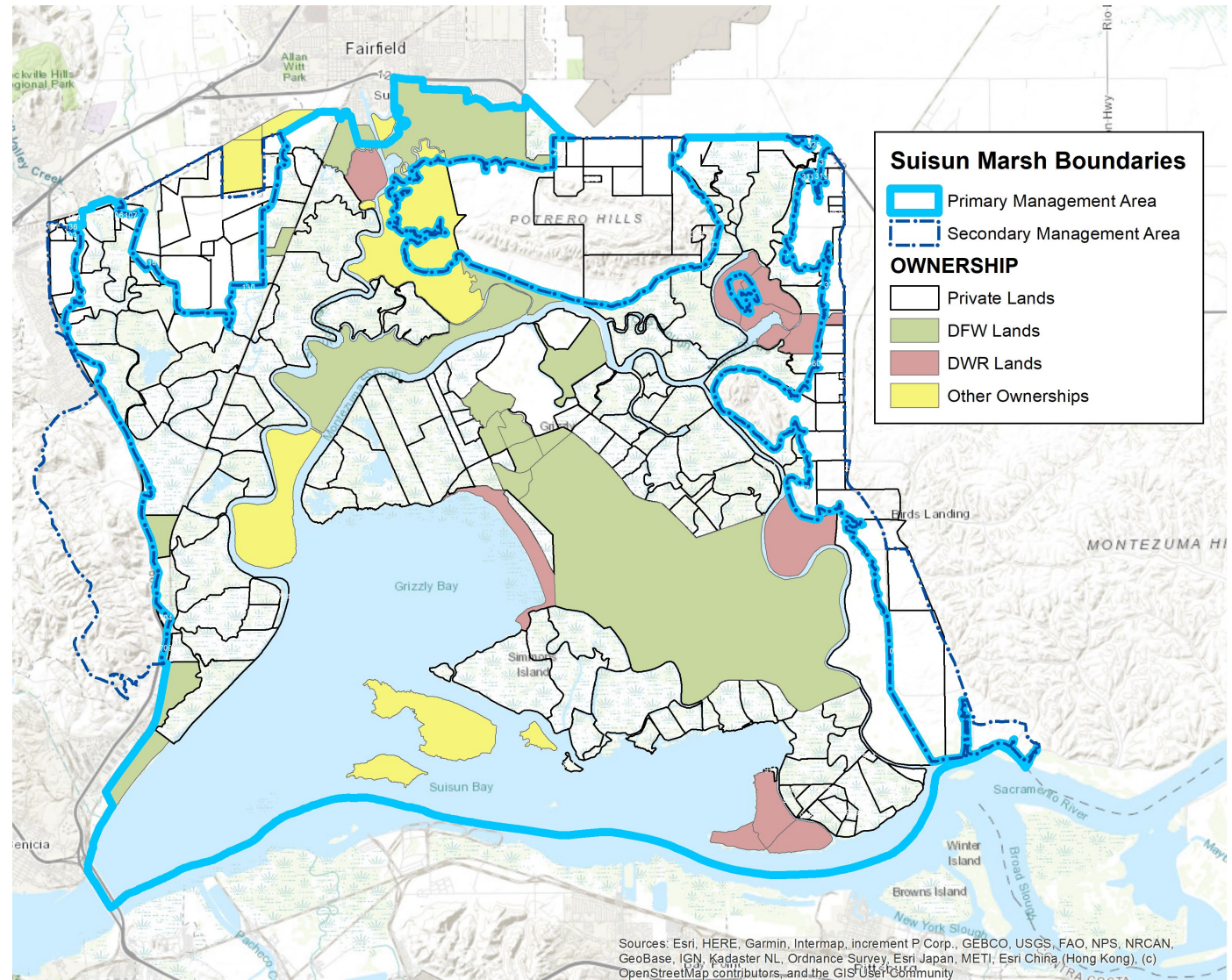


# BCDC'S SUISUN MARSH LAW AND POLICIES



# BCDC PRIMARY AND SECONDARY MANAGEMENT AREAS

- Primary Management Area (blue)
- Secondary Management Area (dashed blue)
- Privately owned Managed Wetlands within the jurisdiction (black boundaries)



# THE SUISUN RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT LPP COMPONENT



- Regulate and improve water management practices at privately-owned Managed Wetlands
- The SRCD's LPP is composed of four elements, where Element II requires the creation of Individual Water Management Programs (IMPs) for each managed wetland



# INDIVIDUAL OWNERSHIP MANAGEMENT PLANS (IMP)

- The existing IMPs describe the operations and maintenance of 141 privately held managed wetlands, including
  - Identifying the infrastructure at the sites
  - Schedules for water management and vegetation management
  - An evaluation of the then current conditions of levees, ditches, and water control structures
- The IMPs have not been updated since 1984
- SRCD Amendment: Updates 124 “Individual Ownership Adaptive Habitat Management Plans” (IOAHMP)

# SUMMARY OF THE 2021 SRCD AMENDMENT

1. Provide a more flexible and practical framework for landowner's wetland management and incorporate new science that has been developed over the past 35 years
2. Provide an adaptive management framework, using best available science
3. Provide up to maps for date soil, elevation and infrastructure
4. **Exempt most Minor Repairs and Improvements from the requirement to obtain a Marsh Development Permit from BCDC**

# SMMP AND SMPP CONSISTENCY

- SMMP requires the SRCD management program be “designed to preserve, protect, and enhance the plant and wildlife communities”
- SMPP Policies encourage SRCD to establish water management practices for privately-owned wetlands
- SMPP Policies provide that maintenance activities undertaken pursuant to Individual Management Plans should be exempt from permit requirements



# THE McATEER-PETRIS ACT AND THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY PLAN CONSISTENCY

- Managed Wetlands
- Fish, Other Aquatic Organisms and Wildlife
- Tidal Marsh and Tidal Flats
- Water Quality and Fresh Water Flow
- Dredging
- Shoreline Protection
- Climate Change
- Recreation and Public Access
- Environmental Justice and Social Equity (EJSE)



# PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATION

1. Certify the 2021 SRCD Amendment to Element II of the Suisun Resource Conservation District's component of the Suisun Marsh Local Protection Program to update the individual water management plans for the privately-owned managed wetlands
2. Find that the data, and practices incorporated into the Amendment are consistent with the Suisun Marsh Preservation Act, the McAteer-Petris Act, the policies of the Suisun Marsh Protection Plan, and the San Francisco Bay Plan

Vote on February 17, 2022, Commission meeting

**THANK YOU**